

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 STATE 246363
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SIG-01 DHA-05 TRSE-00 IO-13 SS-15
SP-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01
USIA-06 PRS-01 NSC-05 /071 R

DRAFTED BY USOAS:MDION:JD
APPROVED BY USOAS:GMCCEE
-----017802 142108Z /61

R 132242Z OCT 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL AMERICAN REPUBLIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 246363

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SHUM, OAS

SUBJECT: BUDGET OF IAHC UNDER REVIEW

1. SUMMARY: PROGRAM/BUDGET COMMITTEE OF THE OAS MET OCTOBER 12 AND 13 TO REVIEW THE PROPOSED FY-78 BUDGET OF THE INTER-AMERICAN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION. AT STRONG US URGING AND AS RESULT OF RESOLUTIONS PASSED AT GRENADA IN JUNE, OAS SECRETARIAT ACCEPTED FULL REQUIREMENTS AS STATED BY IAHC AND SUBMITTED FOR APPROVAL FIGURE OF 615,000 DOLLARS, NEARLY DOUBLING ITS CURRENT BUDGET. IN AUGUST, INDEPENDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE SET UP WITH OUR STRONG SUPPORT REVIEWED ALL SECRETARIAT BUDGETS AND RECOMMENDED DEEP CUTS IN MOST, WITH EXCEPTION OF IAHC, WHERE IT CALLED FOR INCREASE TO 500,000 INSTEAD OF 600,000 DOLLARS SOUGHT. AT OPENING SESSION, NEW IAHC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY VARGAS CARRENO PRESENTED SIZABLE NEW REQUEST, ON TOP OF SECRETARIAT FIGURE, TO FINANCED TRIPS TO FOUR COUNTRIES, NEW SPECIAL REPORTS AND PROMOTIONAL
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 STATE 246363

ACTIVITIES IN EDUCATION AND PUBLIC RELATIONS. TOUGH QUESTIONS WERE RAISED BUT TREND IN PROGRAM/BUDGET COMMITTEE IS CLEARLY FAVORABLE TOWARD ACCEPTING MOST OF NEW ACTIVITIES PROPOSED BY VARGAS. CHAIRMAN PITY OF PANAMA, WHO IS STRONG SUPPORTER OF IAHC THESE DAYS, HAS DEFERRED DECISION UNTIL DELEGATIONS HAVE HAD A CHANCE TO CONSULT GOVERNMENTS ON CONSOLIDATED BUDGET. LOWER

ADVISORY COMMITTEE FIGURE HAS LITTLE SUPPORT. END SUMMARY.

2. DR. VARGAS OPENED BUDGET HEARING WITH STRONG STATEMENT CALLING FOR DRASTIC UPWARD REVISION OF BUDGET SOUGHT BY SECRETARIAT TO NEARLY THREE TIMES CURRENT FUNDING OR SOME 900,000 DOLLARS, EXPLAINING SIX-FOLD INCREASE IN CASELOAD, NEED FOR NEW LEGAL STAFF, FUNDS TO VISIT FOUR COUNTRIES THAT HAD EXTENDED INVITATIONS, MORE SPECIAL REPORTS, AND WHOLE NEW PROGRAM OF PROMOTIONAL WORK IN FORM OF PUBLICATIONS, SEMINARS AND FELLOWSHIPS. CHAIRMAN PITY (PANAMA) NOTED THAT ADVISORY COMMITTEE HAD RECOMMENDED SIZABLE INCREASE IN IAHC BUDGET BUT CALLED FOR 100,000 DOLLARS LESS THAN SECRETARIAT REQUEST. PITY HAD OFFERED VARGAS OPPORTUNITY TO REASSESS NEEDS OF IAHC AFTER HIS THREE WEEKS IN OFFICE AND, IN CONSULTATION WITH IAHC CHAIRMAN AGUILAR, VARGAS HAD PRODUCED NEW BUDGET REQUEST NEARLY THREE TIMES PRESENT FINANCING.

3. MOST DELEGATIONS REACTED FAVORABLY TO VARGAS' REQUEST, INCLUDING SOUTHERN CONE COUNTRIES, THOUGH THEY RAISED SPECIFIC DOUBTS ABOUT SEVERAL FEATURES OF HIS PRESENTATION AND PROMISED TO SEEK FURTHER REACTION FROM THEIR GOVERNMENTS. THEIR SURPRISINGLY GOOD RECEPTION WAS MIRROR-IMAGE OF DOUBTFUL REACTION OF SOME OF TRADITIONAL SUPPORTERS OF THE IAHC. AMBASSADOR MACHIN (VENEZUELA) LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 STATE 246363

VOICED DEEP MISGIVINGS ABOUT BUREAUCRATIZATION OF COMMISSION, DANGER OF EXCESSIVELY COSTLY SELF-ADMINISTRATION AND OVERLY HIGH SALARIES/PERQUISITES FOR STAFF. HE POINTED TO BAD EXAMPLE SET BY OTHER, UNNAMED INTERNATIONAL AGENCIES WHICH SUPPOSEDLY WORK TO ALLEVIATE POVERTY AND SUFFERING BUT SPEND TWO-THIRDS OF BUDGET ON STAFF, OFFICES, AUTOMOBILES, ETC. MACHIN ARGUED FOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION BUT HE ALSO EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR MANY OF VARGAS' PROMOTIONAL SCHEMES AND SAID VENEZUELA WOULD STUDY DETAILS CAREFULLY. AMBASSADOR MCINTYRE (T/T) WAS EVEN MORE CRITICAL OF SUCH A LARGE REQUEST THAT WENT TOO FAR TOWARD FRILLS AND DIVERTED MAIN EFFORT FROM BURGEONING CASELOAD. EVERYONE KNEW WHICH COUNTRIES WERE HUMAN RIGHTS OFFENDERS, ESPECIALLY COUNTRIES THEMSELVES BECAUSE THEY WERE AMONG THE MOST SOPHISTICATED IN THE HEMISPHERE. ADOPTION OF HARSH TACTICS WAS RUTHLESS DECISION ON PART OF THEIR GOVERNMENTS AND SEMINARS, BOOKS AND FELLOWSHIPS WERE UNLIKELY TO CHANGE THEIR ATTITUDES. IAHC'S REAL MISSION IS SPOTLIGHTING CURRENT ABUSES AND SAVING VICTIMS FROM FURTHER ABUSE.

4. MEXICO PLEDGED FULL SUPPORT TO VARGAS' REQUEST AS DID HAITI. PERU SPOKE AT LENGTH ABOUT IMPORTANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND NEED TO FULFILL TERMS OF GRENADA RESOLUTION STRENGTHENING IAHRG BUT DID NOT ENDORSE ANY OF THREE BUDGET FIGURES. BRAZIL SAID INSTRUCTIONS WERE TO SUPPORT FULL SECRETARIAT REQUEST BUT DELEGATION HAD CABLED FONMIN FOR INSTRUCTIONS ON SUPPLEMENTAL. HE ASKED, AND CHAIRMAN SO ORDERED, THAT SECRETARIAT/VARGAS BUDGETS BE CONSOLIDATED. PRELIMINARY READING WAS THAT MOST IDEAS PROPOSED WERE GOOD ONES AND WOULD RECEIVE BRAZIL'S SUPPORT. URUGUAY ASKED NUMBER OF POINTED QUESTIONS OF VARGAS ABOUT WORK CONTRACT PROCEDURES, IN WHICH OUTSIDER HIRED TO DO HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT ON A MEMBER COUNTRY. VARGAS PROMISED THAT IF IAHRG GIVEN FULLTIME LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 STATE 246363

STAFF TO HANDLE ITS RESPONSIBILITIES, THAT PRACTICE WOULD END. ARGENTINA SUPPORTED SECRETARIAT FIGURE BUT PROMISED TO REFER VARGAS' SUPPLEMENT TO BUENOS AIRES AS PART OF CONSOLIDATED IAHRG BUDGET.

5. CHILE WELCOMED VARGAS AS DISTINGUISHED CHILEAN, PLEDGED FULL SUPPORT OF GOC TO WORK OF COMMISSION AND PROMISED TO ABIDE BY TERMS OF GRENADA RESOLUTION BY GIVING FULL SUPPORT TO SECRETARIAT BUDGET REQUEST AND SYMPATHETIC CONSIDERATION TO NEW CONSOLIDATED BUDGET. CHILEAN REP RAISED SEVERAL QTE CONSIDERATIONS, UNQTE INCLUDING WHETHER DRASTIC EXPANSION IN FUNDS AND PERSONNEL SHOULD NOT BE PHASED IN GRADUALLY TO AVERT POSSIBLE ADMINISTRATIVE PROBLEMS. VARGAS ASSURED HIM COMMISSION COULD HANDLE INCREASES WITH FULL MANAGERIAL COMPETENCE AND CHILEAN REP HASTENED TO ACCEPT ASSURANCES. ANOTHER CONSIDERATION HE RAISED IN DELICATE PHRASING REALLY REFERRED TO POSSIBILITY THAT PART-TIME COMMISSIONERS MEETING SEMI-ANNUALLY WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO CONTROL VERY LARGE NEW SECRETARIAT. VARGAS ASSURED HIM CHAIRMAN IS FULLY COGNIZANT AT ALL TIME OF WORK OF EXECUTIVE SECRETARY AND IS IN FULL COMMAND OF IAHRG ACTIVITIES. HE ALSO RAISED ISSUE OF STUDYING VIOLATIONS IN NON-DISCRIMINATORY FASHION (GA RES. 314) AND ORGANIZING CONSULTATIONS WITH INTERESTED GOVERNMENTS

(GA RES 315) BUT VARGAS SAID THESE DECISIONS HAD TO BE TAKEN BY COMMISSION ITSELF AT LATE OCTOBER MEETING.

6. CHAIRMAN PITY SUMMARIZED DEBATE AS STRONGLY SUPPORTIVE OF SECRETARIAT REQUEST AND SYMPATHETIC TO MOST PROPOSALS IN DR. VARGAS SUPPLEMENTAL REQUEST. HE SAID CONSOLIDATED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 05 STATE 246363

BUDGET AND VARGAS STATEMENT WOULD BE TRANSLATED AND
DISTRIBUTED FOR CAREFUL STUDY BY GOVERNMENTS BEFORE FINAL
DECISION ON IAHRC BUDGET. HE DEFERRED FURTHER CONSIDERA-
TION BUT PROMISED AMPLE WARNING BEFORE VOTE SCHEDULED
IN PROGRAM/BUDGET COMMITTEE. VANCE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BUDGETS, HUMAN RIGHTS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 13-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE246363
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MDION:JD
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770377-1061
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771063/aaaacbmi.tel
Line Count: 180
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: cf14952f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 929154
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BUDGET OF IAHRC UNDER REVIEW
TAGS: SHUM, PORG, XM, XL, XS, OAS, IAHRC
To: ALL POSTS
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/cf14952f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009